much bureaucratic and the voluntary organisations suffer from resources. Therefore, the question of this intermediary agency comes into the forefront.

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR: I think, you are correct in saying that the Government agencies were not enough. They alone cannot do it. This work is gigantic. That is why, very recently, on the 1st of July, the Prime Minister, under the Ministry of Social Welfare called a meeting of voluntary agencies for women. Voluntary agencies of women all over India were called and they were consulted. For a whole day, they had a seminar and their suggestions are there. A large number of suggestions have been made which this Ministry will certainly like to implement wherever it is practicable And the Prime Minister is also very much keen that social voluntary agencies must be associated in all their activities whether it is in rural areas or urban areas.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next Question—Shri Raoof Valiullah.

Proposed Hajira Shipyard

*22. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission working group on Hajira Shipyard Project has submitted its report;

(b) whether the Project is proposed to be included in the Seventh Plan; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) The Working Group on Ship Building and Ship Repair Industry, set up by Planning Commission for the 7th Plan, has proposed the creation of a New Shipyard without reference to any specific site.

(b) and (c) The 7th Plan proposals are yet to be finalised.

SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Sir, the decision to set up a shipyard project at Hajira was taken by the Government way back in 1975-76 as Hajira was then considered to be the best site for the shipyard. Sir, unfortunately, due to financial constraints, in the Sixth Plan the project was kept in abeyance. Sir, the country now is in dire need of more tonnage in shipping, and keeping this in view the former Union Finance Minister had categorically written to the Members of Parliament from Gujarat that a special working group has been set up by the Planning Commission on Hajira shipyard project, Sir, now the Minister has in his reply said that the Working Group has proposed the creation of a new shipyard without any specific reference to any specific site. Sir, will the Minister be pleased to state that while determining the site of the proposed shipyard project what the criteria will be and whether the Working Group has referred to any specific site or sites in the report that it has submitted?

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: Sir, I do agree with the hon. Member that he is very well informed as far as this project is concerned for establishing new shipyards. Hajira was one of the sites which were agreed to earlier. But, as he has already said, because of the financial constraints, in the Sixth Plan this project could not be taken up. And, Sir, in the Seventh Plan, I am afraid the financial constraints are all the more severe. And as far as the working group is concerned, I am not aware of any working group by the Finance Ministry. But I am aware of the working group which has been set up by the Planning Commission for the ship-building and ship repair industry and they have indicated the need and feasibility of one more shipyard to be established. They have not indicated any site. Sir, the first thing is that if the Planning Commission agrees to the establishment of a new shipyard and provides finances for

that, then only the question will arise. The working group has not indicated any site for that. It has only indicated that there is a need for a new shipyard and it is feasible as far as shipbuilding is concerned.

SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Sir, in part (b) and (c) of his answer the hon. Minister has said that the 7th Plan proposals are yet to be finalised. Sir, in view of the fact that the proposals for the 7th Plan are to be finalised very soon, will the Minister be pleased to state how, in the absence of any specific site being given by the working group, will the shipyard be included in the 7th Plan?

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: Sir, I have already said that the working group has already indicated the need and feasibility of one more shipyard. Now the question is at the stage when the final plan emerges, a decision is taken and the plan finalised.

SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Sir, my question is very specific. In the absence of any specific site being given by the working group, how will you include the shipyard in the 7th Plan?

MR. CHAIRMAN: They can include it, there is no problem.

SHRI M. M. JACOB: Sir, this is a very important question of infrastructure for the country and the shipyard's planning is very vital. In this connection, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether there has been any study made on the capacity utilisation of the existing shipyards in the country because there is a report about the Cochin shipyard which says that it is facing a fresh crisis due to lack of work. Even the Chairman of the shipyard is reported to have said that SCI, the Shiping Corporation of India, has cancelled their letter of intent for a bulk carrier. So, I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government has a definite plan of fixed targets in ship-building through various shipyards existing in this country and what are the projections when we are formulating the 7th Five Year Plan?

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: Sir, the hon. Member has made a very relevant point. In 1980, at the time of the Sixth Five Year Plan, this question was reviewed and it was considered whether we should improve the working of the existing shipyards or should we go for a new shipyard and the consensus was that priority should be given to optimum utilisation of the existing capacity which has been created by our two shipyards, Cochin shipyard and HSL. That emphasis is still there and we are taking steps in that direction.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether in the Seventh Plan there is any proposal for building any ship repairing yard. In this connections, I particularly refer to the Haldia Ship Repairing yard, which is under the consideration of the Central Government for a long time, for many years. I would like to know from the Minister what the fate of that ship repairing yard is.

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: Sir, although this question is very specific regarding the Hajira shipyard project, but..

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you have the information give it; otherwise ask for notice and I will move to the other questions.

श्री शंकर सिंह वाघेला : जो मंत्री जी ने जवाब दिया है यह वेग स्लिप्पाई है। 10 साल से शिपयार्ड का प्रश्न चला आ रहा है और अब तक इसका फाइनलाइजेशन नहीं हुआ है इसका मझे दुख है। क्या गवर्नमेंट आफ गुजरात ने आप को हजीरा साइट पसंद करनी चाहिए इसके लिए कोई ज्ञापन दिया है? क्या ऐसे कोई और राज्य हैं जिन्होंने ऐसे ज्ञापन दिये कि हमारे क्षेत्र में शिपयार्ड होना चाहिए?

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: When the question of setting up a new shipyard came up in '70s, almost every maritime State sent its proposal for establishing a new shipyard in its State.

SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Mr. Chairman, may I know whether it is a fact that an expert committee was appointed to suggest the site for the shipyard and it recommended Hajira as the best port to set up a shipyard?

SHRI Z.R. ANSARI: The hon. Member is very much right. An expert committee in the '70s was set up and it identified two sites, Hajira and Paradip for establishment of a new shipyard.

DR. SHANTI G. PATEL: The Minister was pleased to state in his reply to the original question that Planning Commission Working Group has, during its findings, said that there is necessity and feasibility of an additional shipyard. Later on, in answer to another question from another Member, he said that Cochin and Visakhapatnam shipyards are not being fully utilised and they should be put to full use. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what the correct state of affairs is. If his first answer is correct, then utilisation of Cochin and Visakhapatnam does not arise or if they are to be put to full use—and must have been put to full use because that is why the Working Group came to the conclusion that there is necessity for an additional shipyard, much more so because Cochin and Visakhapatnam are not able to maintain, to the best of my information, or construct container ships while what we need in the present day is more and more container ships for which a shipyard is necessary. So, I would like the Minister to clarify which is the correct state of affairs, whether additional shipyard is necessary or Cochin and Visakhapatnam are to be put to full use.

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: When the question of establishing new shipyards came up before different committees, the question was fully reviewed and considered and at that time the consensus was that instead of going in for establishment of a new shipyard in the '80s, we should go in for optimum utilisation of the capacity of existing shipyards and then go in for further expansion of these two shipyards at Cochin and HSL and after that only we can consider establishment of a new shipyard. This was the position. Now, the Working Group for the Seventh Five-Year Plan has recommended the establishment of one more shipyard and the need and feasibility of one more shipyard has been projected by that Working Group.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

Shipping Development Bank of India

*23. SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY:†
SHRI BISWA GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a high level official committee appointed by his Ministry has recommended the setting up of a Shipping Development Bank of India;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) whether Government have accepted the recommendation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) The Committee to review the arrangements for assistance to shipping companies (July 1984) has *inter alia* in its report submitted in June. 85 suggested the setting up of Shipping Development Bank of India

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy.